

UNCLASSIFIED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 08/30/2010

To: Tampa

From: Tampa

FMRA

Contact: SA [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

mbh

b6 -1
b7C -1

Case ID #: 58C-TP-70141 (Closed)

Title: Congressman Don Young;
Et Al;
Corruption

Synopsis: To close case.

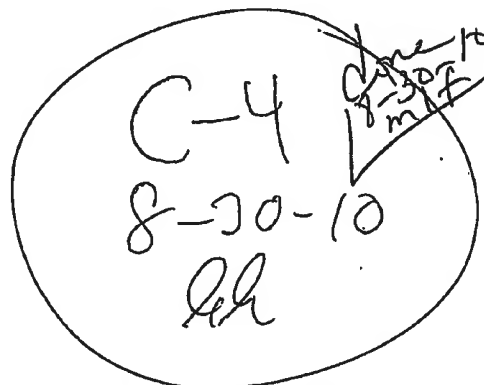
Details: After review by the Chief of the Public Integrity Section, Department of Justice, it was determined that there was not evidence beyond a reasonable doubt to ultimately convict Congressman Young. Instead, the FBI has forwarded a letter outlining certain actions taken by Congressman Young and will leave punishment to the discretion of the Ethics Commission. A copy of the letter sent to the Ethics Commission is incorporated into the file.

Inasmuch as the chief of the public integrity section has declined prosecution in this matter, the writer requests that the case be closed at this time.

♦♦

UNCLASSIFIED

Young-173



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58CTP70141-70

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6 -1, 3, 4, 5
b7C -1, 3, 4, 5
b7D -1

Date of transcription 04/07/2008

On April 2, 2008, an interview was conducted under the [redacted] at the United States Attorney's Office in Anchorage, Alaska. The following individuals were present at the meeting: [redacted] and his attorney, [redacted] Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Assistant United States Attorneys (AUSA) [redacted] and [redacted] as well as Department of Justice (DOJ) Attorneys [redacted] and [redacted]. At the the start of the meeting, [redacted] and his attorney [redacted]

[redacted] voluntarily provided the following information:

[redacted] was born in [redacted] Alaska and spent a few years [redacted] graduated from the [redacted] with a Bachelor of Arts degree in [redacted] b6 -4
[redacted] He briefly attended [redacted] b7C -4
[redacted] After [redacted] b7D -1
college [redacted] and took a job briefly at [redacted]

[redacted] FRANK MURKOWSKI'S campaign in 1986 and 1992. [redacted]

[redacted] For DON YOUNG, Alaska Congressman, in [redacted]
[redacted] YOUNG's campaign in 1996 [redacted]

[redacted] left YOUNG's campaign staff [redacted] interviewing with DON [redacted] YOUNG's
and LU YOUNG, as well as [redacted] b6 -2, 4
Congressional office. [redacted] b7C -2, 4
b7D -1

[redacted] fund-raising events, [redacted] YOUNG's
schedule with the Washington, D.C. (DC) office. [redacted]
the AK campaign office [redacted]

Investigation on 04/02/2008 at Anchorage, Alaska

b6 -2, 4, 5
b7C -2, 4, 5
b7D -1

File #

Date dictated N/A

by

SA [redacted]
SA [redacted]

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b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -2

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency;

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b6 -2, 4, 5
b7C -2, 4, 5
b7D -1
b7E -2

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2008, Page 2

[REDACTED] after it became known that [REDACTED] under investigation by the FBI. [REDACTED] the media as it relates to YOUNG's campaign.

[REDACTED] never spoke to YOUNG directly about this issue.

[REDACTED]
All of YOUNG's travel, including the Congressional Delegation (CODEL) trips are arranged by YOUNG's DC office. [REDACTED] a schedule from the DC office regarding YOUNG's planned travel.

LU YOUNG's travel is paid for by campaign funds. The YOUNGs use a Oklahoma based travel agency to arrange all of their travel. The travel agency is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has the campaign credit card account number and charges the account directly for all travel linked to the campaign.

Campaign funds cover the costs associated with signage, permits for signs, fund raising expenses, lodging costs associated with the campaign, and travel expenses for LU YOUNG as well as staff members who travel with LU YOUNG.

[REDACTED] previously lived in Alaska, [REDACTED] at the time [REDACTED] to begin working for the YOUNGs. [REDACTED] taking care of LU YOUNG.

[REDACTED] after LU YOUNG's stroke [REDACTED] the YOUNGs. [REDACTED] job description is also responsible for three topic areas including [REDACTED] was unable to recall the other two topic areas for which [REDACTED] is responsible. [REDACTED] has never seen [REDACTED] do any type of constituent work. [REDACTED]

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2008, Page 3

[REDACTED]

LU YOUNG can't be left alone because she has a tendency to fall and her vision is poor. She is unable to drive, and does not like to be by herself. [REDACTED] is of the opinion that she needs a full-time medical aide. LU YOUNG goes to the DC congressional office every day with YOUNG. The YOUNGS typically arrive at the DC office at 11:00 am. LU YOUNG has her own desk and screens people coming into the office. LU YOUNG is very hard on staff members and has described herself as a savage Athabaskan for decades. She is not healthy, [REDACTED]

b6 -4
b7C -4
b7D -1

LU YOUNG sees herself as the elected official, and wants to be recognized at every function she attends. She gets very upset if YOUNG forgets to introduce her. DON and LU YOUNG have a loving relationship, but frequently have volatile arguments.

On one occasion, LU YOUNG became very upset with [REDACTED]

YOUNGS' condominium upon their arrival in Alaska. LU YOUNG has a sense of entitlement about most things and can be very mean when she doesn't get her way. LU YOUNG insisted on having crackers, cheese, Lindeman 65 wine, and ginger ale. The YOUNGS don't think they should have to pay for anything when they are in Alaska including dinners, laundry, and dry cleaning. Anytime the YOUNGS have dinner with constituents [REDACTED] the cost of the dinner is picked up by the campaign. The YOUNGS would pile of receipts including receipts for their own dinners and ask for reimbursement. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] previously paid the receipts without question as well. Over the course of the last [REDACTED]

Lately, they have not been [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stopped on the advice of counsel after [REDACTED] the campaign.

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5
b7D -1

[REDACTED] previous incident in which LU YOUNG wanted her daughter flown to a campaign event [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on whether LU YOUNG was entitled to per diem expenses from the campaign. There was no doubt [REDACTED] that the expenses LU YOUNG was submitting were inappropriate, and it was a common topic of discussion in the

[redacted]

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted], On 04/02/2008, Page 4

office. [redacted]
[redacted]

On one occasion [redacted]
[redacted] the receipts LU YOUNG was
requesting reimbursement for, YOUNG's response [redacted]

b6 -3, 4, 5
b7C -3, 4, 5
b7D -1

[redacted] YOUNG rarely apologizes. [redacted] does not know if
YOUNG sees the expenses submitted by LU YOUNG. LU YOUNG has a
checking account at [redacted]
reimburses LU YOUNG directly by check, so there will be a record
of the transaction. [redacted]
[redacted]

The campaign requires two signatures on checks of
\$500.00 and greater. [redacted]
[redacted]

LU YOUNG was reimbursed for meals with friends, family,
and constituents. Some of her favorite restaurants include
Lucky Wishbone, Sea Galley, and Simon and Seafort's. YOUNG also
submitted receipts for dinner. Some of the YOUNGs' friends and
family [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] YOUNG served as
Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee from
2002-2008. There was a portrait unveiling in DC associated with
this honor. LU YOUNG wanted family members to attend the event
in DC. She thought this travel expense should be considered a
campaign expense. Arrangements were made in 2002 for the YOUNG
family to travel from Anchorage to DC on a FEDEX jet at a cost
of \$17,000.00 for approximately thirteen people. LU YOUNG
requested payment for the travel costs. [redacted]
YOUNG knew of the arrangements and that the costs were covered
by the campaign.

YOUNG treated any travel to Alaska as campaign related.
In addition, when LU YOUNG takes constituents to the Capitol

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2008, Page 5

[REDACTED]

Hill Club, she submits receipts to the campaign for reimbursement. YOUNG has a Suburban sports utility vehicle which stays parked in the Congressional garage. [REDACTED]

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5
b7D -1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] typically sent a check request [REDACTED] on a monthly basis requesting reimbursement for mileage from campaign funds. [REDACTED] late in reimbursing the mileage request, YOUNG would call. The campaign is no longer reimbursing for mileage. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] looking after LU YOUNG.

[REDACTED] both DON and LU YOUNG routinely obtained [REDACTED] from the campaign account in the amount of \$300 dollars each when they traveled to Anchorage. The [REDACTED] stopped within the last year on [REDACTED] advice of counsel. [REDACTED]

b6 -2, 4
b7C -2, 4
b7D -1

[REDACTED] YOUNG that he could no longer [REDACTED] YOUNG appeared to be upset and irritated by this, and advised he would discuss it with Adkins & Gump. The money was for tips and incidental expenses. YOUNG never provided receipts to justify this money. Typically YOUNG would travel to Anchorage six to seven times during nonelection years, and more frequently during election years. The [REDACTED] was usually provided at the front end of the trip in the form of cash left in an envelope in YOUNG's hotel room or at his condominium. [REDACTED] also knew about YOUNG's [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] YOUNG claiming reimbursement for dinners that were not campaign related was inappropriate. LU YOUNG usually received a check made out to her in the amount of \$300.00 at the beginning of each trip to Alaska. [REDACTED] LU YOUNG to the bank where she would deposit her check. There was one occasion when LU YOUNG went to lunch at Simons and Seaforths. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

the individual she was going to lunch with would not let LU YOUNG pay. [REDACTED]

b6 -4
b7C -4
b7D -1

[REDACTED] LU YOUNG would often submit receipts for reimbursement in addition to the \$300.00 checks that she would receive from campaign funds.

[REDACTED] has traveled to Fort Yukon, the official residence of the YOUNGS, twice. YOUNG has expensed things

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2008, Page 6

[REDACTED]

related to his trips to Fort Yukon to the campaign. Typically the campaign would pay for half of the costs associated with a charter flight to Fort Yukon and YOUNG's Congressional office would pay the other half of the costs. The costs that the campaign covered were the costs associated with LU YOUNG's travel to Fort Yukon. However, there were instances when the campaign paid for the entire cost of the chartered flight. The YOUNGs have a small house in Fort Yukon, and YOUNG built a second house there. Every charter flight the YOUNGs took to Fort Yukon in August was full of building supplies. These supplies came from Spenard Builders (SB). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] supplies from SB including a stove, 2x4 lumber, doors, paint, and wash buckets. The charter flight was a Conquest 441 plane operated through Security Aviation. [REDACTED] no campaign events ever took place in Fort Yukon. The YOUNGs were simply traveling to their home. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] may have traveled there on the chartered flight with the YOUNGs. [REDACTED]

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5
b7D -1

[REDACTED] finances, [REDACTED] of accounting matters. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Neither DON or LU YOUNG wanted a campaign credit card.

[REDACTED]

The campaign credit card is used to cover costs associated with fund raisers, as well as travel costs associated with the campaign. The travel agency the YOUNGs utilize has the campaign credit card account number, so the account can be charged directly when airline tickets are issued to the YOUNGs and other staff members. [REDACTED] arrangements to pay for out of state fund-raising events and [REDACTED]

b6 -2, 4
b7C -2, 4
b7D -1

b7E -2

b6 -4
b7C -4
b7D -1

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 04/02/2008 , Page 7

There were many instances when hunting trips coincided with campaign trips for YOUNG. YOUNG went on a fund-raising trip to Brownsville, Texas and then attended a hunting trip on the side. Some trips were not profitable in terms of fund raising. YOUNG took a trip to Savannah Dhu and the campaign barely broke even on the trip. They expected to raise \$24,000 dollars for the campaign, but only raised \$4,000 dollars. Another event in Brownsville wasn't successful because the event coordinator didn't have enough time to arrange it.

There were several Savannah Dhu fund raisers over the years. In January of every year, YOUNG goes to an event for the Safari Club hosted in Reno, Nevada. The cost for the YOUNGs, as well as an aide for LU YOUNG to attend the event is paid for by the campaign. In the past, there was one \$2,000 dollar contribution from the Safari Club; however, the campaign did not receive a check from the Safari Club this year. DC staffers arranged hunting trip in the four corners area of Arizona and New Mexico. An event coordinator was hired in either Arizona or New Mexico to organize the fund raiser associated with the hunting trip, but was given short lead time to do so. The fund raising event was not held; however, the hunting trip still occurred. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] No charges occurred as a result of the event planning since the fund raiser did not actually occur. Usually an event coordinator is paid 12-15% of the total contributions.

The DC office makes all of the decisions related to fund raising events. [REDACTED] only attends the Alaska events; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the crab feed and moose burger events in DC every year. [REDACTED] to attend some events then fly in DC staff to cover them. [REDACTED] a lot of YOUNG's Seattle travel. [REDACTED] per year from the campaign for the work that he does. [REDACTED]

In regard to the Coconut Road fund raising event, the catering bill was picked up by someone else. This was brought [REDACTED] paid the reception costs, [REDACTED] hotel room charge.

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2008, Page 8

[REDACTED]

The campaign eventually reimbursed [REDACTED] for all of these expenses. At the Coconut Grove event, \$40,000 dollars was raised. [REDACTED] for the campaign.

CONNIE MACK, a Congressman from Florida, didn't send a copy of the invitation in response to [REDACTED] request. MACK's staff was evasive about the Coconut Grove event saying at one point that it was an outdoor event, then changing their stance and saying it was an indoor event. MACK was quick to separate himself from YOUNG and the fund raising event. [REDACTED] 2-4 pages including receipts and an invitation from MACK. [REDACTED] the same information [REDACTED] without the invitation from MACK. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a copy of the invitation. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] a copy of the [REDACTED] invitation [REDACTED] b6 -2, 4, 5
b7C -2, 4, 5
b7D -1

[REDACTED] is part of an inner group of lobbyists who support YOUNG. [REDACTED] for YOUNG and is [REDACTED] fund raising events in both Puerto Rico and Las Vegas. The Puerto Rico event is held annually and typically raises between \$20,000 to \$30,000 dollars for YOUNG's campaign. [REDACTED] notices to raise funds for YOUNG's campaign. The core group of lobbyists supporting YOUNG include [REDACTED]

The YOUNGS are not gamblers. LU YOUNG likes jewelry. She won drawings and received earrings in the state of Washington. LU YOUNG was panning for gold in Fairbanks and found a large gold nugget in her pan. [REDACTED] hasn't heard whether LU YOUNG finding a gold nugget in her pan was fixed. He also doesn't know who hosted this event in Fairbanks. LU YOUNG received countless bracelets and ivory while in the DC office. LU YOUNG showed [REDACTED] gifts including a pair of earrings [REDACTED] bought her during a trip to Las Vegas. She was given the earrings, which appeared to be solitary diamond studs, during one of her last three trips to Las Vegas. The earrings looked like diamonds; [REDACTED] does not know if they were real.

LU YOUNG also won earrings at the Seafood Invitational in Seattle, Washington one year.

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 04/02/2008, Page 9

[REDACTED]

During a CODEL trip in August, the campaign paid for all of the fishing licenses for guests. [REDACTED] is unaware who paid for the actual fishing trips. When five or more members of Congress travel together on a trip, they are allowed to request a military transport flight. b6 -4
b7C -4
b7D -1

[REDACTED] Alaska Airlines (AA) in DC [REDACTED] LU YOUNG called AA as a result of being angry with [REDACTED] LU YOUNG asked AA if they still wanted their gate at National Airport. Shortly thereafter, [REDACTED]

During the Sea Life Center auction events, LU YOUNG would verbally attack people who weren't bidding high enough. On one occasion, [REDACTED] was not bidding as high as LU YOUNG expected, and she yelled at him.

[REDACTED] is not aware of LU YOUNG being taken on any paid shopping trips by lobbyists.

b6 -2, 4, 5
b7C -2, 4, 5
b7D -1



U.S. Department of Justice

Criminal Division
Public Integrity Section

1400 New York Avenue, Suite 12100
Washington, D.C. 20005

August 17, 2010

Via certified mail, return receipt requested

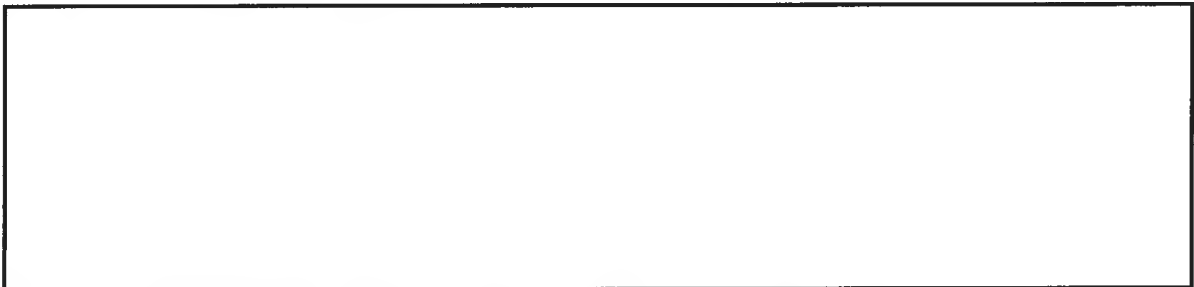
R. Blake Chisam, Esq.
Chief Counsel
Committee on Standards of Official Conduct
United States House of Representatives
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Congressman Don Young

Dear Mr. Chisam,

We write to refer to the Committee information regarding potential violations of the disclosure requirements of the Ethics in Government Act by United States Congressman Don Young. The information relates to travel and expenses associated with hunting trips taken by Congressman Young between 2001 and 2007 which were not reported on his annual financial disclosure reports.

We understand from Congressman Young's attorney, John M. Dowd, Esq., that he has previously provided the Committee with information regarding these allegations. Specifically, it is our understanding that he has provided to the Committee all documents and other materials that Congressman Young has provided to the Department of Justice during our investigation. Those materials include the following:



Please advise us if the Committee has not received any of the above-referenced items.

b3 -1, Per FBI
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For your reference, we have enclosed a chart (Attachment A) listing the specific hunting trips and expenses that were not reported on Congressman Young's disclosure reports. In addition, we note that the FBI interviewed dozens of witnesses in connection with our

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investigation, and we are willing to make the reports of those interviews available to the Committee. We have enclosed a list of significant witnesses who were interviewed by the FBI on a voluntary basis, along with a brief description of their relationship to the conduct at issue. This is included as Attachment B.

We have concluded our investigation, and provide this information for any action or additional investigation that the Committee deems appropriate. If you have questions, or if you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 514-1412.

Sincerely,



Jack Smith
Chief
Public Integrity Section

Enclosures

cc: Office of Congressional Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
P.O. Box 895
Washington, D.C. 20515-0895

John M. Dowd, Esq.
Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/14/2008

[redacted] date of birth [redacted] and Social Security Account Number [redacted] was contacted at [redacted] has a work telephone number of [redacted] and a cellular telephone number of [redacted]. After being advised of the identity of the agent and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] voluntarily provided the following information.

[redacted] about a fundraiser being held for United States Representative DON YOUNG. [redacted] part of a regional group known as the SOUTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE (SWFTI). SWFTI was formed to lobby and gain the attention of state legislators when it came time to fund transportation projects in the area. [redacted] believed that if there were no presence in Tallahassee trumpeting the needs of Southwest Florida, legislators would overlook the area and provide funds to other regional delegations who expressed their needs. Since the formation of SWFTI, Southwest Florida has received significant funding from the state for highway and road improvements.

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

SWFTI consists of mostly industry people in the area. The impetus for SWFTI was initiated by members of the BONITA BAY GROUP, which [redacted] Employees and executives from the BONITA BAY GROUP frequently send [redacted] information about political representatives and fundraising events in the area. [redacted] on the METROPOLITAN PLANNING & ORGANIZATION (MPO) board.

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

[redacted] which [redacted] asked [redacted] and others to help raise \$5,000 for YOUNG. [redacted] indicated that for a donation of \$500, the donor could attend a reception where United States Representatives DON YOUNG, CONNIE MACK, and MARIO DIAZ-BALART would be present. Each of these congressional members sat on the House of Representatives' transportation committee. If a donor would contribute \$5,000 or bundle a group of contributors that totalled over \$5,000, the donor could attend a private dinner with YOUNG, MACK, and DIAZ-BALART.

Investigation on 2/13/2008 at Bonita Springs, FL

File # 58C-TP-70141 -28

Date dictated 2/14/2008
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by SA [redacted] mbh

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[REDACTED] to YOUNG and [REDACTED] to the event. [REDACTED] expected that each person who attended would donate \$500. [REDACTED] indicated that a donation was expected if a person attended the event. This was not abnormal when compared to other political fundraisers [REDACTED] attended.

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

[REDACTED] SWFTI members were interested in trying to obtain funds to improve Interstate 75. [REDACTED] SWFTI members felt that the reception and dinner with YOUNG, MACK, and DIAZ-BALART was a perfect opportunity to explain the traffic problems around the area. YOUNG, who attended an event at FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY (FGCU) prior to the reception, got caught in traffic while being driven to the HYATT COCONUT POINT. [REDACTED] that YOUNG being tied up in traffic was a perfect example of why the area needed money to expand the infrastructure.

b6 -4
b7C -4

While at the reception [REDACTED] met YOUNG but was not able to speak with him but for a second. [REDACTED] spoke with MACK a little longer, but their conversation was brief. [REDACTED] spoke the longest with DIAZ-BALART, who represented a district in Miami. [REDACTED] felt that DIAZ-BALART's presence was important as an expansion of I-75 would assist Miami as well as Southwest Florida by better allowing the flow of traffic to Miami.

There weren't many people who attended the reception at the Coconut Point Hyatt. [REDACTED] a few members of SWFTI attended the event. [REDACTED] does not remember if he met an individual named [REDACTED].

After the fundraiser, [REDACTED] SWFTI members were very pleased when they saw that the transportation bill allocated approximately \$80 million for improvements and widening Interstate 75. [REDACTED] later learned that \$10 million of those dollars had been allocated for a study for the Coconut Road Interchange. [REDACTED] was surprised by this because no one at SWFTI was advocating for funds to support the interchange. If the purpose for YOUNG's fundraiser had been to lobby for funds to pay for the Coconut Road Interchange, no one from SWFTI would have attended. The Coconut Road Interchange is well down the list of needed improvements for the area. SWFTI

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 2/13/2008 , Page 3

[REDACTED] specifically wanted to lobby for funds to improve and widen I-75.

[REDACTED] has followed news accounts of the Coconut Road Interchange controversy. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] recommended that the area accept the money for the Coconut Road Interchange study after being told that they could not redirect the funds to improve and widen I-75. [REDACTED] believed that the MPO would spend approximately \$900,000 on the study.

b6 -4
b7C -4

Some local politicians suggested that the study be done for an interchange that only headed west. [REDACTED] indicated that this couldn't be done because a study would focus on every option to include not having an interchange at all. [REDACTED] believed that there was a real possibility that the study would show that the interchange was not needed. If the study actually turned out that way, [REDACTED] believed that they could then go back to Congress and ask them to reallocate that money to widen I-75. Since the controversy, congress has reprogrammed that money to its original intent which was to widen and improve I-75.

[REDACTED] thinks that SWFTI organized the fundraiser for YOUNG. [REDACTED] based this belief on the fact that the [REDACTED] of the SWFTI members. When [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] does not know if [REDACTED] is a member of SWFTI. [REDACTED] is aware that [REDACTED] property off of I-75 that would be impacted by the Coconut Road interchange.

[REDACTED] property is in a DRGR zone.

[REDACTED] is also aware that there is current discussion to place culverts in and around the property as part of the I-75 widening project. Questions about drainage surround the project. [REDACTED] believes that a study should be done to see where the water will go if the culverts are placed. When I-75 was originally built, the highway caused the natural drainage flow to change from a westerly direction to south. [REDACTED] is not sure if the culverts will reestablish the flow of water to a westerly direction. Under the current plan, water would flow through a community known as THE BROOKS and eventually end up in a creek [REDACTED] knows that THE

b6 -4, 5
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Continuation of FD-302 of

[Redacted Box]

, On 2/13/2008 , Page 4

BROOKS drainage system has more capacity available but a study would determine the actual effects of drainage flow.

b6 -4
b7C -4

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/28/2008

[redacted] date of birth [redacted] and Social Security Account Number [redacted] was contacted at her place of employment which is located at [redacted]

[redacted] has a home address of [redacted]

[redacted] has an office telephone number of [redacted] and a cellular telephone number of [redacted]. After being advised of the identity of the Agent and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] voluntarily provided the following information:

b6 -4
b7C -4

[redacted] used to work for [redacted]
[redacted] political functions throughout the State of Florida as well as national elections.

[redacted] is a group called the SOUTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE (SWFTI). SWFTI consists of local public and private entities that are interested in procuring funds for local infrastructure projects. [redacted] Tallahassee and Washington DC to attempt to obtain funds for projects considered important by the SWFTI members. On occasion, members of SWFTI have [redacted] DC and in Tallahassee. Members of SWFTI who have traveled to DC include DAVID GRAHAM (who is now deceased) [redacted]

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

[redacted] individuals have served on SWFTI's executive committee.

[redacted] is not a registered lobbyist. [redacted] to advocate the needs of Southwest Florida to politicians that have the potential to fund governmental projects in the area. [redacted] follows the normal process to obtain appropriations from governmental committees. SWFTI is a member based organization and [redacted] As such, [redacted] from SWFTI.

[redacted] has met with UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DON YOUNG, the former chairman of the House Transportation Committee. The main priority for SWFTI was to

Investigation on 2/27/2008 at Ft. Myers, FL

File # 58C-TP-70141 -29

Date dictated 2/28/2008
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by SA [redacted] mbh

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 2/27/2008 , Page 2

obtain funding for the widening of Interstate 75. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SWFTI commonly referred to these capacity improvements as Lanes 5 and 6 for I-75. [REDACTED] believes [REDACTED]

b6 -4
b7C -4

[REDACTED] met with YOUNG and/or his staff approximately five or six times to discuss the areas needs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] attended a dinner with YOUNG in Washington DC. [REDACTED] of donations to YOUNG at that dinner.

[REDACTED] member of SWFTI. [REDACTED] SWFTI meetings, but would [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Sometimes, [REDACTED] to attend the SWFTI meetings.

b6 -3, 4, 5
b7C -3, 4, 5

[REDACTED] time after [REDACTED] SWFTI, [REDACTED] from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE PORTER GOSS' office. According to [REDACTED] GOSS' office and making the rounds on Capitol Hill [REDACTED]

of SWFTI and that the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE off of I-75 was a high priority project for SWFTI that needed federal funding.

[REDACTED] the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE was not a priority for SWFTI and that SWFTI had no idea that [REDACTED] was in Washington DC.

[REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was essential for SWFTI to maintain a united front when advocating positions to members of congress.

[REDACTED] that the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE was not a priority for SWFTI. [REDACTED] that lanes 5 and 6 for I-75 were the priority for SWFTI. Once the area received funding for the capacity improvements to I-75, the members of SWFTI could turn their attention to other projects.

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

[REDACTED] let time run its' course and the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE would eventually be addressed by SWFTI. The COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE is on the long term plan for Interstate 75. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] someone at UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE CONNIE MACK's office indicating that YOUNG had accepted MACK's invitation to travel to Southwest Florida. [REDACTED] members of SWFTI were very excited at the prospect of YOUNG's travel to the area.

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_____ SWFTI, _____ mix and mingle reception for YOUNG at the HYATT COCONUT POINT in Estero, FL. _____ the town hall meeting at FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY _____ the dinner reception for YOUNG at the HYATT COCONUT POINT. _____ does not remember the minimum donation needed to attend the reception or the dinner but when told the amounts were \$500 and \$5,000 respectively _____ indicated that the figures sounded correct. _____ these figures because these kinds of receptions and dinners are a regular occurrence for political officials. _____ attends or is invited to receptions and dinners such as these at least once a week. _____ indicated that this was how business was done with politicians.

b6 -4
b7C -4

_____ reception for YOUNG at the HYATT COCONUT POINT _____ members of SWFTI wanted to use this opportunity with YOUNG to advocate the need for additional funding to widen I-75. Seeing as how YOUNG was the chairman of the transportation committee, _____ knew that YOUNG wielded tremendous power over the appropriations process. MACK and UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE MARIO DIAZ-BALART, members of the transportation committee, were also in attendance at the reception and dinner. There weren't a lot of people who attended the reception. _____ does not know who attended the dinner.

b6 -4
b7C -4

Some time after the reception _____ learned that approximately \$81 million had been budgeted in the latest transportation bill for improvements to I-75. _____ members of SWFTI were very pleased by the funding.

A short time after the bill passed _____ who told _____ had found an additional \$10 million in the transportation bill. _____ contacted MACK's office and asked about the \$10 million. Staffers from MACK's office checked the bill and found the earmark. _____ initially thought the earmark was additional funding for improving I-75.

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

_____ there was an article in the newspaper detailing the true use of the \$10 million. _____ learned that the funds had been earmarked for the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE. _____ initial thought was that _____ had been

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 2/27/2008, Page 4

able to convince someone on Capitol Hill to fund the interchange.

After the controversy over the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE emerged, [REDACTED] wanted to find a way to keep the funds. [REDACTED] indicated that it was and would be hard for SWFTI to go back to representatives and ask for money when local politicians were talking about giving the money back to Congress. While capacity improvements to I-75 were SWFTI's number one priority, [REDACTED] was in favor of going ahead with the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE STUDY if that was what they had to do to keep the money.

b6 -4, 5
b7C -4, 5

[REDACTED] is familiar with an individual named [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] has nothing to do with SWFTI. [REDACTED] does not think that [REDACTED] will remember [REDACTED] does not recognize a company named POTOMAC PARTNERS.

Members of MACK's staff [REDACTED]
about the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE earmark [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] has spoken with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] is not familiar with Washington affairs as [REDACTED]

b6 -3, 4, 5
b7C -3, 4, 5

Since the controversy over the COCONUT ROAD INTERCHANGE broke, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] NEW YORK TIMES reporter [REDACTED]
did not return [REDACTED]
in SWFTI. The SWFTI invoice was sent to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the invitation, a partial list of donors who contributed to this fundraiser as well as checks provided to SWFTI [REDACTED]

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